

**Today in Corps history:**  
**April 9, 1942:** Bataan, Philippines, fell to Japan. Battery C, 4th Marine Regiment surrendered with American forces.

*Source: Marine Corps History*

**FAST FACT**



**Local: Heritage Foundation gets up-close-and-personal tour, see Page 3**

**District News: College grad puts down books, picks up rifle, see Page 5**

**Feature: Marine stands test of time, leaves legacy of his own, see Page 6**

**Inside**



**Softball season kicks off with weekend tournament**

The Marine Corps Community Services-South Carolina 2nd Annual Pre-Season Softball Tournament kicked off at the Parris Island Sports Complex April 3.

**see Page 4**

# THE BOOT



**“We Make Marines”**

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April 9, 2004

## Depot News

### APRIL 15 DEADLINE TO FILE TAXES NEARING

The Depot Tax Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 8 a.m. - noon.

To file taxes, patrons must bring at least their W-2's, all other tax information, military ID and social security card. All those who claim to have authority to sign for spouse or other, please bring Power of Attorney. A Social Security Card is required to file an electronic return.

For more information, call 228-3644.

### WOMEN MARINES OFFER SCHOLARSHIP

The Women Marines Association Phyllis Alexander Chapter is looking for a few good students to award a college scholarship.

The chapter will award two scholarships, one to an active duty female Marine stationed in the Beaufort area, and one to a senior-year female MCJROTC student from Battery Creek or Jasper County High School. Applicants must submit an essay and school records, along with a recommendation form from by May 4.

For more details, call 846-0169.

### PIOSC SCHOLARSHIP GOLF TOURNEY

The Parris Island Officer's Spouses' Club will host its 12th Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament April 30 at the Legends at Parris Island, with a shotgun start at noon. Registration is \$50.

For details, call 524-7882.

## Easter Services

### RMC TO HOST EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

The Religious Ministries Center will host its annual Easter Sunrise Service Sunday at 7 a.m., behind the Four Winds Club.

Immediately following the service, breakfast will be provided at the H&SBn. Mess Hall.

For more information, contact 228-2353.

### NHB HOLDS EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

In keeping with its tradition, Naval Hospital Beaufort will host an Easter Sunrise Service from 7 - 7:30 a.m. at the flagpole in front of the hospital Sunday. Following the service, a small continental breakfast will be served. Parking will be marked and available near the flagpole.

For further information, call 228-5416.

## Out in Town

### PARTY IN THE PARK WITH 2 ROCK BANDS

"Party in the Park" with REO Speedwagon and special guests the Gin Blossoms, April 16 at Shelter Cove Community Park in Hilton Head. Gates open at 6 p.m. Tickets are \$30 plus taxes and fees.

For ticket information, call 671-5995.

## Weather



**Friday**  
Mostly Sunny  
Hi 78 Low 56  
**Saturday**  
Partly Cloudy  
Hi 75 Low 57  
**Sunday**  
Iso T-storms  
Hi 83 Low 63

### LANCE CPL. BRIAN

#### KESTER

*STAFF WRITER*

The 2nd RTBn. Mess Hall was awarded the Commanding General's Best Mess Hall of the Quarter April 1.

This is the first time that the award has been given since Sodexo took control of Depot food service, and it will stand as the guide by which this award will be given in the future.

"We are setting a standard for everyone else to strive for," said Fred Europe, general manager of 2nd RTBn. Mess Hall. "This is a special way for [the employees] to

see the rewards of what they have been asked to do up to this point."

Europe is a retired Marine who went to recruit training at 2nd RTBn., and ate his first Marine Corps meal in the same mess hall he now works in.

"Being a former Marine, [I know that] we don't like to lose," said Europe. "I thought it was the right thing for us to be the first ones to win this award."

While Europe is striving to set the standards, Maj. James McCoy, director of food services for the Depot, is trying to further inspire a sense of elevated quality within the



mess halls.

"I elected to reinstitute this award to generate pride among the workers and to generate the spirit of competition among the mess halls,"

**“This is a special way for [the employees] to see the rewards of what they have been asked to do up to this point.”**

**- Fred Europe, general manager, 2nd RTBn. Mess Hall**

he said. "The intent is that the recruits and permanent personnel will receive quality products and quality services."

Those traits are scrutinized and judged from one mess

hall to the next, looking for that special something that separates the one from the many.

"Several categories of the various functions of the mess hall were evaluated," said McCoy. "Food production, sanitation, product quality, teamwork and general mess hall administration were assessed. Out of the six mess halls, this one stood out in the evaluation process."

John Benke, regional vice-president for Sodexo, saw the characteristic that put 2nd RTBn. Mess Hall in front of the others, simple concern for

**see MESSHALL, Page 4**

## Playtime break ...



Lance Cpl. Brian Kester  
**Trey Earl, 5, son of Staff Sgt. Larry Earl, a drill instructor for 2nd RTBn., relaxes on the monkeybars at Wake Village March 31. The family lives next to the playground, and Trey, a kindergarten student at Laurel Bay Primary, plays there several times a week.**

# Videos make promotion process easy

Promotion Branch releases 3 videos aimed at educating officers, staff NCOs on the promotion board process.

### STAFF SGT. BENJAMIN N. HAYNES

*PRESS CHIEF*

The Personnel Management Division, Manpower & Reserve Affairs, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, recently produced three new informational videos that explain important aspects of the promotion process for all Marines.

Two of the videos, The Officer Promotion Process and The Staff NCO Promotion Process, show officers and enlisted Marines how to prepare for a promotion selection board and explain the promotion selection board process.

"The Officer Promotion Process video is actually about three years old and has been passed out to board members so they can conduct PME sessions back at their commands," said Maj. Pete Gillis, Officer Section Head, Personnel Management Division. "We've put the video out on MarineNet now for all officers to view."

The Enlisted Promotion Process video, which is less than a year old, provides a great deal of information on the enlisted promotion board process, which will help Staff NCOs better understand the importance of their Fitness Reports when preparing for a board.

According to Gillis, understanding promotion boards is an educational process and the videos will help Marines

**see VIDEO, Page 8**

# Retired Marine donates Waterhouse print to Depot

### LANCE CPL. BRIAN

#### KESTER

*STAFF WRITER*

Retired Col. John W. Ripley donated a print depicting his heroic actions in Vietnam to the Depot at Barrow Hall April 2.

The original print by Col. Charles Waterhouse, the Marine Corps' only artist-in-residence, is one of three that were donated to various training facilities Ripley attended. The contribution was made in the hopes of inspiring the individuals going through training, and will soon find its home in 1st RTBn. Headquarters.

The print depicts Ripley's actions in Dong Ha, Vietnam during the 1972 North Vietnamese Easter Offensive. Ripley, serving as an advisor to the 3rd Vietnamese Marine Battalion, destroyed a bridge almost single-handedly during

the battle. His actions allowed his battalion of 735 Vietnamese Marines to fight off more than 200,000 enemies in the decisive battle that many historians claim changed the course of the Vietnam conflict. His actions at the bridge earned him the nation's second highest honor, the Navy Cross.

"I had intended, when the painting was first done, to give it to three institutions," said Ripley. "The first [donation was to] Parris Island, the next is the Naval Academy and finally the Marine Corps Basic School."

Ripley trained at each of these institutions and reflects on each as contributors to his actions in combat. Such actions include the 12 hand-over-hand trips, scaling the girders under the bridge and setting the

**see RIPLEY, Page 8**



Lance Cpl. Brian Kester  
**Brigadier Gen. Joseph J. McMenamin, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot/Eastern Recruiting Region, and retired Col. John W. Ripley, unveil an original print by Col. Charles Waterhouse at Barrow Hall April 1. The print, depicting Ripley's actions in Dong Ha, Vietnam, was donated to 1st RTBn.**